

RECENT DENUDATION IN NANT FFRANCON.

SIR,—When examining the scene of the flood described in this Magazine last February I could not satisfy myself as to whether any channels had previously existed at the same place. My friend Mr. Dakyns informed me, however, that destruction of culverts is mentioned in a description of the damage done to the road. It is clear, therefore, that former channels did exist, and that the whole of the excavation cannot be ascribed to the flood of last August. I think, though, that the old channels must have been small, for if deposition be a measure of denudation, the recent excavating work done must have been very great.

I should like to take this opportunity to again suggest how valuable some regular record would be of denudation observed at the present time.

EDWARD GREENLEY.

OBITUARY.

BARON NILS ADOLF ERIK NORDENSKIÖLD,
PH.D., FOR. MEMB. GEOL. SOC. LOND., NATURALIST AND ARCTIC
EXPLORER.

BORN NOVEMBER 18, 1832.

DIED AUGUST 13, 1901.

WITH deep regret, we have to record the sudden death near Stockholm of Professor Baron Nordenskiöld, the eminent Naturalist and Arctic Explorer. Of a Swedish family long settled in Finland, Nordenskiöld was born in Helsingfors, the capital of that country, his father, Dr. Nils Gustaf Nordenskiöld, the eminent mineralogist, who died in 1866,¹ being at that time Director of Mines for Finland. Naturally, therefore, his ardent sympathies were always enlisted in favour of the land of his birth.

His family had long been eminent in science, and his inherent tastes were fostered and developed by the surroundings of his home at Frugård, which contained extensive collections of minerals and natural history specimens, and by his journeys with his father. On entering the University of Helsingfors in 1849 he devoted himself almost entirely to scientific studies, spending his vacations in excursions to the rich mineral localities of Finland. In 1855 he took his degree as licentiate, and was immediately appointed a mining official of the Government. From this post, however, he was dismissed in the same year for having indulged in pleasantries at the expense of the Russian Government at a private students' feast. A temporary absence being deemed advisable, he continued his studies at Berlin, but in 1857 returned to take his doctor's degree at Helsingfors. As ill-luck would have it, however, a deputation from the Swedish Universities was then entertained at Helsingfors, and the young doctor in an after-dinner speech again showed his sympathies

¹ See GEOL. MAG., 1866, Vol. III, p. 288.